

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 18 public bills, H.R. 4217–4234, and 1 resolution, H. Res. 502, were introduced.

Pages H5592–93

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 3980, to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to treat illnesses of Persian Gulf War veterans, to provide authority to treat illnesses of veterans which may be attributable to future combat service, and to revise the process for determining priorities for research relative to the health consequences of service in the Persian Gulf War, amended (H. Rept. 105–626);

H.R. 4110, to provide a cost-of-living adjustment in rates of compensation paid to veterans with service-connected disabilities, to make various improvements in education, housing, and cemetery programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs (H. Rept. 105–627); and

H. Res. 501, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4194) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999 (H. Rept. 105–628).

Page H5592

Recess: The House recessed at 9:07 a.m. and reconvened at 11:15 a.m.

Page H5499

Joint Meeting To Receive the President of Romania: The House and Senate met in a joint meeting to receive an address by His Excellency Emil Constantinescu, President of Romania. It was made in order that the proceedings during the recess be printed in the Record. Representatives Armeiy, Cox of California, Gilman, Bereuter, Solomon, Dunn, and Fox of Pennsylvania and Senators Mack, Coats, Lugar, Smith of Oregon, Daschle, and Biden were appointed as members of the committee to escort the President of Romania into the House Chamber by the Speaker and President pro tempore of the Senate, respectively.

Pages H5499–H5502

Tropical Forest Conservation Act: The House agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2870, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to facilitate protection of tropical forests through debt reduction with developing countries with tropical forests—clearing the measure for the President.

Pages H5507–11

Child Custody Protection Act: The House passed H.R. 3682, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking minors across State lines to avoid laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions, by a recorded vote of 276 yeas to 150 noes, Roll No. 280.

Pages H5521–40

Rejected the Scott motion to recommit the bill back to the committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report it back forthwith with an amendment in the nature of a substitute that makes it illegal to use force or coerce a minor across State lines to obtain an abortion by a yeas and nays vote of 158 yeas to 269 nays, Roll No. 279.

Pages H5538–40

H. Res. 499, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yeas and nays vote of 247 yeas to 173 nays, Roll No. 278. Earlier, agreed to order the previous question by a yeas and nays vote of 252 yeas to 174 nays, Roll No. 277.

Pages H5511–21

Sonny Bono Memorial Salton Sea Reclamation Act: The House passed H.R. 3267, to direct the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to conduct a feasibility study and construct a project to reclaim the Salton Sea, by a yeas and nays vote of 221 yeas to 200 nays, Roll No. 282.

Pages H5546–64

Agreed by unanimous consent to the Boehlert amendment that specifies that funding will not be derived from the land and water conservation fund.

Pages H5555, H5557–58

Rejected the Miller of California amendment in the nature of a substitute that authorizes a study of alternatives for restoring the Salton Sea by a yeas and nays vote of 202 yeas to 218 nays, Roll No. 281.

Pages H5555–64

H. Res. 500, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a voice vote. Pursuant to the rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in H. Rept. 105–624 was considered as adopted.

Pages H5540–46

Treasury, Postal Service Appropriations Act: The House completed general debate on H.R. 4104, making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999. Consideration will resume on July 16.

Pages H5573–81

H. Res. 498, the rule that is providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to earlier by a recorded vote of 218 yeas to 201 noes with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 284. Earlier, agreed to order the

previous question by a yea and nay vote of 231 yeas to 185 nays, Roll No. 283.

Pages H5564–73

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate appears on page H5502.

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on pages H5594–H5635.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yea and nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H5520, H5520–21, H5539–40, H5540, H5563–64, H5564, H5572, and H5572–73. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 9:00 a.m. and adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Ordered reported the Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary appropriations for fiscal year 1999.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs approved for full committee action the Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Relations appropriations for fiscal year 1999.

HOMEOWNERS' INSURANCE AVAILABILITY ACT

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Ordered reported amended H.R. 219, Homeowners' Insurance Availability Act of 1997.

ELECTRONIC COMMERCE

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing on Electronic Commerce: The Energy Industry in the Electronic Age. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NBA PIONEERS—PENSION FAIRNESS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations held a hearing on Pension Fairness for NBA Pioneers. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

WASHINGTON CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on the District of Columbia held a hearing on Washington Convention Center Authority. Testimony was heard from Andrew Brimmer, Chair-

man, District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority; the following officials of the District of Columbia: Marion Barry, Mayor; and Linda Cropp, Chairman, City Council; Gloria Jarmon, Director, Health, Education, and Human Services Accounting and Financial Management Issues, GAO; Rick Hendricks, Director, Project Development, National Capital Division, GSA; and Terry Golden, Chairman, Washington Convention Center Authority.

KYOTO PROTOCOL

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, Natural Resources, and Regulatory Affairs continued hearings on "The Kyoto Protocol: Is the Clinton-Gore Administration Selling Out Americans?" (Part V). Testimony was heard from John C. Horsley, Associate Deputy Secretary and Director, Office of Intermodalism, Department of Transportation; and public witnesses.

AFRICA—COMBATING INTERNATIONAL CRIME

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Africa held a hearing on Combating International Crime in Africa. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Justice: Tom Kneir, Deputy Assistant Director, Criminal Investigative Division, FBI; and Michael Horn, Chief, Foreign Operations, DEA; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE; OVERSIGHT—ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

Committee on Resources: Ordered reported amended H.R. 4111, to provide for outlet modifications to Folsom Dam, a study for reconstruction of the Northfork American River Cofferdam, and to transfer to the State of California all right, title, and interest in and to the Auburn Dam.

The Committee also held an oversight hearing on the Endangered Species Act. Testimony was heard from Michael Anable, Deputy State Land Commissioner, Land Department, State of Arizona; Renne Lohofener, Assistant Regional Director, Region 2, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; Peter Coppelman, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice; Eleanor S. Towns, Regional Forester, USDA; and public witnesses.

VA-HUD-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, an open rule providing 1 hour of debate on H.R. 4194, making appropriations for the Department of Veterans